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The Second Best Thing About Payday

nih record

ABOVE • *The spirit of Halloween merged with the spirit of CFC giving on Oct. 29. See pages 10-11 for more.*

features

departments

NIH Celebrates ARRA Milestone

By Valerie Lambros

It's hard to imagine that earlier in the year, no one had heard of the term ARRA because it hadn't been coined yet.

Now there are NIH'ers who could probably discuss the specifics of the funding legislation in their sleep. Staffers postponed or canceled summer vacations, answered their Blackberries at all hours and worked in high gear in order to push out the first $5 billion of the $10.4 billion funding package before the end of this year's fiscal calendar on Sept. 30.

NIH'ers breathe a sigh of relief at the ARRA appreciation event on Oct. 15.

"When I was informed that we had been appropriated $10.4 billion from ARRA, I couldn't really process what that meant," said NIH deputy director Dr. Raynard Kington, who led NIH efforts to allocate the money in the few short months that existed to get it out the door. He spoke at the ARRA appreciation event for NIH staff on Oct. 15 in Wilson Hall.

SEE **ARRA PARTY,** PAGE 8

Getting a Fuller Picture

Genetics Offers Promise of Personalized Medicine

By Valerie Lambros

Genetics is not a new field, but for many researchers, the possibilities for study presented by unraveling genetic sequences, sequence variants and their potential relationship to specific illnesses are ever-changing. For as far into the future as anyone can project, scientists will have plenty to study, courtesy of the intricacies of the human genome.

One of the most beneficial aspects of having the human genome mapped, investigators contend, is that it offers a picture of what "normal" is supposed to look like. However, any scientist knows that "normal" is a relative and transient term. We have millions of interactions and lesser mutations occurring in our bodies at any given time. It's the genetic alterations that aren't minor or self-corrected that can cause problems and result in disease, experts note.

SEE **GENETICS,** PAGE 4

Happiest In Over Her Head

Full-Time NIH'er Thrives as Part-Time Scuba Instructor to Soldiers

By Carla Garnett

By day, Jane Spencer can be found toiling away in the Office of Human Resources, feet squarely planted on terra firma. Evenings and weekends, however, Spencer's life sinks...considerably. That's when, at the first opportunity, she dons a wetsuit and mask, hitches up her scuba tank and dives into the depths of the ocean.

"I always wanted to be Jacques Cousteau—without the nose," Spencer jokes. "The underwater world fascinated me even as a child and once I tried diving for the first time, I was completely hooked on it."

Her first dive was more than two decades ago, and each one since has been no less thrilling. Over the past year, however, Spencer has taken her passion for the deep to a new, more rewarding level. Now she works part-time as an instructor for Soldiers Undertaking Disabled Scuba (SUDS), a non-profit organization

SEE **SCUBA,** PAGE 6

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briefs

STEP Forum on the 'Musical Mind'

The staff training in extramural programs (STEP) committee will present a Science for All forum on the topic "Name That Tune: The Science of the Musical Mind," on Tuesday, Nov. 24, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Natcher Bldg., Rms. E1-E2.

Why does hearing a few notes from a favorite song bring back memories? Why are we moved by different genres of music? Music is the universal language of the human spirit and touches nearly every aspect of our lives. Music is used for therapeutic purposes. Neuroimaging research has shown connections with cognitive and emotional functioning, giving us valuable information about how the brain works. This forum will explore the relationship between music and the human experience. Participants will engage in different forms and expressions of music.

DDM Seminar Series Returns

The Deputy Director for Management (DDM) Seminar Series begins its fourth season in December. Speakers known for delivering meaningful insights into workplace concepts, challenges and solutions are again featured. The seminars offer employees an opportunity to advance their knowledge of best practices in a variety of leadership and management issues.

The first seminar will feature Willie Jolley on Thursday, Dec. 3 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. He will discuss key strategies for organizational success. The series continues into 2010 with three more seminars, featuring Dr. Steve Robbins on Feb. 18, Betsy Myers on Apr. 15 and Mitchell Ditkoff on June 17. These presentations will focus on inclusion for creativity and innovation, lessons in authentic leadership and high-powered teams.

The talks will be available at http://videocast.nih.gov/ for those who cannot attend or when Masur Auditorium reaches capacity.

Sign language interpreters will be provided. Individuals who need reasonable accommodation to attend should contact the NIH Training Center at (301) 496-6211 or the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

For more information about the DDM Seminar Series and to view previous DDM series videocasts, visit www.ddmseries.od.nih.gov/.

Hoek Delivers Keller Lecture, Nov. 19

Dr. Jan B. Hoek will deliver the 2009 Mark Keller Honorary Lecture on Thursday, Nov. 19 at 1:30 p.m. in Lipsett Amphitheater, Bldg. 10. Hoek is professor in the department of pathology, anatomy and cell biology at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia. The title of his talk is "Alcoholism and Its Impact on Energy Metabolism: Implications for Tissue Injury and Repair." NIAAA established the lecture series as a tribute to Mark Keller, a pioneer in the field of alcohol research. The Keller lecturers are researchers who have made significant and long-term contributions to our understanding of alcohol's effects and how alcohol problems can be prevented and treated.

Kastner To Give Astute Clinician Lecture

Dr. Daniel Kastner will give the Astute Clinician Lecture as part of the NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series on Nov. 18 at 3 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. Attendees will hear "Fevers, Genes and Histories: Adventures in the Genomics of Inflammation" from Kastner, clinical director of the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases, as well as deputy director of NIH's Intramural Clinical Research Program and director of NIAMS Translational Research.

The Astute Clinician Lectureship was established in 1998 through a gift from the late Dr. Robert W. Miller and his wife, Haruko. The series honors a U.S. scientist who has observed an unusual clinical occurrence and, by investigating it, has opened an important new avenue of research. Learn more at http://clinicalcenter.nih.gov/researchers/lectures/astuteclin.html.

Dr. Carl Kupfer (l) and Ed McManus, circa 1994

Book Recounts History of the Eye Institute

By Allyson T. Collins

Dr. Carl Kupfer and Edward McManus have been a team since 1973—Kupfer's third year as the first director of the National Eye Institute and McManus's first year as NEI executive officer.

"From the beginning, Carl had the vision and I was the implementer," remembers McManus, who later served as NEI deputy director.

So it was fitting that they reunited in 2004, 4 years after they had both retired from NEI, to document the institute's history.

"Carl was the driving force behind the book, just like his philosophy was the driving force behind the first several decades of the NEI," McManus says.

Kupfer and McManus contacted historian and editor Nancy Berlage for guidance in beginning the project. Berlage was tasked with merging two visions of the book—Kupfer's desire for a narrative, documenting NEI's philosophy and accomplishments, and McManus's goal of a scholarly public policy paper, describing the development of a successful organization.

"As a historian, I often work from documents, which can only tell a limited story," Berlage says. "It was very exciting for me to be able to talk to these individuals who had the institute's collective memory in their heads."

"Living histories," however, present the challenge of objectivity, so the team searched for secondary sources to confirm these recollections. Gale Saunders, Kupfer's former assistant, gathered much of this information from boxes in the National Archives that contained dusty papers: minutes from National Advisory Eye Council meetings, congressional testimony, letters describing strategies for the institute's formation and program planning documents from after NEI's establishment.

Kupfer and McManus also collected oral histories from people who had testified to Congress in support of an eye institute in the 1960s. "It was wonderful to be able to get insights from those who had been originally involved," Kupfer says. "Through the interviews, we had a pretty good picture of what happened, and we were also able to tell a more interesting story."

Kupfer remembers that the most satisfying part of the project was watching these facts and interviews emerge into a story. "It was like a giant quilt stitched together carefully over time," he says.

The team began writing nearly 2 years ago and organized the book's chapters by themes including, "The Intramural Research Program," "Randomized Clinical Trials" and "National Eye Health Education Program." The publication was recently released to coincide with NEI's 40th anniversary.

Members of the scientific community may read it to gain insights on how a new organization was built. "Perhaps people can learn from the positive actions we took and our errors of omission," McManus says. "They can see the problems and how one group tackled them."

Berlage notes that the book could be particularly interesting to the recipients of vision science advances. "The general public can read this to see how science works, how it is organized and how medical procedures develop," she says. "Most, if not all, of us will be on the receiving end of that at some point."

But for the vision research community, the publication holds a more personal significance, according to Kupfer. "It documents many of the accomplishments of vision researchers, which helped pay back the investment that the U.S. public made when it created the NEI."

To view a copy of *History of the National Eye Institute, 1968-2000*, visit www.nei.nih.gov/neihistory.

NCCAM Holds 10th Anniversary Symposium

On Tuesday, Dec. 8, the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine will hold its 10th Anniversary Research Symposium: Exploring the Science of Complementary and Alternative Medicine.

The symposium features speakers on natural products and mind-body medicine, including: Dr. Jeffrey I. Gordon, "The Human Gut Microbiome: Dining in with a Few Trillion Fascinating Friends"; Dr. Claire M. Fraser-Liggett, "The Role of the Human Microbiota in Health and Disease"; Dr. Joseph P. Noel, "500 Million Years of Mother Nature's Evolving Chemical Repertoire or Why We Owe It All to Sunscreens!"; Dr. Bruce R. Rosen, "Acupuncture, Pain, and Placebo"; Dr. Richard J. Davidson, "Meditation: A Neuroscience Approach"; and keynote speaker Dr. Susan Folkman, "Stress, Coping, and Well-Being: Behavioral Science Meets Integrative Medicine."

People have utilized some CAM therapies since ancient times and often with little scientific evidence. Since its inception in 1999, NCCAM has addressed the need to examine CAM approaches through the scope of rigorous scientific research and has supported more than 2,200 research projects at scientific institutions across the United States and around the world.

The symposium is from 9 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. and will be held in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. The event is open to everyone and registration is not required. It will be videocast at http://videocast.nih.gov/. For more information, visit http://nccam.nih.gov/.

***Gene Hunters**: Dr. Santa Tumminia (l) of NEI and Dr. Anna Barker of NCI are both using genomic information to develop patient-specific therapies, a major goal of modern medicine.*

PHOTOS: VALERIE LAMBROS

GENETICS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Several institutes are using the template of "normal" to record when particular gene sequences go bad, thereby providing a whole new dimension of understanding to certain illnesses. In the process, they're also opening new doors for treatment and discovery.

"The relationship between genes and disease may, at first glance, appear to be relatively straightforward, but the relationship between a gene and disease is more complex than a simple one-to-one correspondence," says Dr. Paul Sieving, director of the National Eye Institute. "A single gene may have a mutation at any one of a hundred different positions, and each mutation may give a different manifestation or aspect to the disease. Different mutations on a single gene can yield progressive global blindness while other mutations on that same gene result in a clinical state that preserves vision into advanced age. Also, mutations in multiple different genes can lead to the same clinical disease state with only subtle differences."

Overall, the result of genetic mutations varies. They can either cause no disease, mild disease or be more devastating, Sieving says. "They can cause the breakdown of organs or loss of vision, cause cancer or cause heart or kidney problems."

To get a better handle on the many mutations that can occur—at least those in the human eye—NEI has spent the last 3 years nurturing a research and clinical program known as eyeGENE, which is shorthand for the National Ophthalmic Disease Genotyping and Phenotyping Network. The program receives patient blood samples from eye health care providers such as ophthalmologists, optometrists and genetic counselors, all across the country. The samples are coded for anonymity and genetically tested by one of several NEI-affiliated network labs. The findings are then reported back to the clinicians who can work with their patients to determine next steps in their care. EyeGENE maintains an ever-growing database of information about scientifically vexing eye disorders. The network surpassed 1,000 samples this summer.

Officially, eyeGENE is testing samples for mutations in about 70 genes that cover about 30 specific disorders. If the genes in the sample don't get a hit on one of the diseases they're tracking, the eyeGENE team will bank the sample until new tests become available. "Genetic testing is like getting a second opinion, only through your genes," says Dr. Santa Tumminia, project officer for the endeavor. "We must make sure that the genetic tests are both clinically valid as well as clinically useful. We can test for a particular genetic condition based on an initial diagnosis, we may uncover a new condition, or we may discover new genes causing the vision disorder. This network is a true partnership between individuals with inherited vision disorders, their eye health care professionals, the research community and the government."

A similar venture is under way at the National Cancer Institute with the Cancer Genome Atlas, now emerging from a pilot program and turning toward a new set of cancers. The Atlas is managed in collaboration with the National Human Genome Research Institute, and the program has collected thousands of tumor samples for study from academic and private institutions across the U.S. It is the first time a large-scale project involving disease genomics has ever been attempted.

The idea is to create a catalogue of genetic signatures from all the variations that occur in specific cancers to set the stage for understand-

ing the changes and how they differentiate from others. It is in these often subtle differences that scientists believe new possibilities for intervention may be discovered or new strategies for treatment could be revealed.

"Through genome characterization and sequencing we are identifying the complexity of molecular changes in these tumors," says Dr. Anna Barker, NCI deputy director. "Cancer is an obvious choice for large-scale genomic characterization since it is a disease of genomic alterations. In cancer, the genes are disrupted significantly. Knowing all of the relevant changes will help to define targets for intervention. We hope to learn enough about these tumors, as well as the pathways that are disrupted, in order to approach the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of cancer in an ever more rational manner."

Such information could help to simplify the treatment process, leading to customized courses of action dependent on tumor subtype, unlike today's treatment methods that approach nearly every cancer the same way.

The medical reality of eliminating cancer as the second leading cause of death is still a ways off, but the concept is sound, NCI says. The pilot program started with glioblastoma, ovarian cancer and squamous cell lung cancer, and researchers were able to determine multiple subtypes for glioblastoma using the data gleaned from high-quality samples. This means treatments could one day be tailored to fit each cancer based on what sets them apart, not what makes them similar.

NIH will invest $275 million over the next 2 years in the Atlas (including $175 million in Recovery Act funds), focusing on more than 20 types of cancer. Barker is excited by the prospect of providing the research community with the complex data gained from such intense study, hopefully accelerating progress against all cancers.

"Personalized cancer medicine isn't going to be a reality for everyone tomorrow," she says. "But we want to get to the point where we can perhaps treat cancers as chronic diseases, and hopefully cure some outright based on the knowledge we are building. In an era of personalized cancer medicine, cancer could become a disease you live with successfully as opposed to dying from it. Projects such as the Atlas will enable this paradigm shift."

NIH Conference on Drug Repositioning, Dec. 4

As the cost of drug research and development continues to increase, drug repositioning, or finding new uses for drugs originally designed for another purpose, has become more important than ever. On Dec. 4, CTSA Pharmaceutical Assets Portal: Matching Academia and Industry for Drug Repositioning—a half-day conference bringing together leaders in the pharmaceutical industry, government and research—will explore current drug repositioning efforts as many pharmaceutical companies are seeing their drug pipelines dry up. Drug repositioning offers a way to explore these previously shelved assets.

The portal is a tool that aims to match researchers' scientific knowledge of targets and diseases with the repositioning needs of the pharmaceutical industry to potentially increase the number of approved drugs for alternative uses. Sponsored by the National Center for Research Resources, NCI and the Clinical Center, the conference will take place from 9 a.m. to noon in Lipsett Amphitheater, Bldg. 10. Registration is requested by Nov. 25 at www.palladianpartners.com/pharm-assets. The event also will be videocast at http://videocast.nih.gov. For details, contact Monica Barnette at (301) 650-8660.

NIDDK Has New Publications

NIDDK recently published two new fact sheets on the topic of diabetes.

Many people who have diabetes need help paying for their care. For those who qualify, a variety of governmental and nongovernmental programs can help cover health care expenses. *Financial Help for Diabetes Care* helps people with diabetes and their family members find and access such resources.

The publication reviews the two government-funded health care assistance programs, Medicare and Medicaid, as well as other health care services available for people with diabetes. It also lists organizations that address financial concerns about prescription drugs and medical supplies, prosthetic care, dialysis and kidney transplantation and provides suggestions for finding local resources. The publication is available at www.diabetes.niddk.nih.gov/dm/pubs/financialhelp.

The publication *Alternative Devices for Taking Insulin* explains the most common alternative devices in delivering insulin besides needles and syringes and explains the importance of consistent monitoring of blood glucose levels to prevent diabetes complications.

In addition, the fact sheet explains new devices for taking insulin currently under development, including an artificial pancreas—a system of mechanical devices that will automatically adjust insulin delivery based on changes in glucose levels. The fact sheet is available at www.diabetes.niddk.nih.gov/dm/pubs/insulin.

SCUBA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

By day, Jane Spencer works in NIH human resources, but the rest of the time she likes to submerge herself among marine life around the world. Above, she enjoys underwater Palau. Below, she emerges from the seas of the Turks and Caicos (l) and dances in the Red Sea, Egypt.

that helps members of the military rehabilitate themselves after war injuries. She says that beyond diving lessons, SUDS—which operates in pool facilities at both Walter Reed Army Medical Center and Bethesda Navy—offers intangible healing.

"I meet these otherwise young and healthy men and women who have been paralyzed or who have lost a limb and they tell me they feel like they'll never be able to do cool stuff again, that they feel like they'll never be whole again," Spencer explains. "I get to introduce them to something that is somewhat adventurous and very cool. I see how vibrant they are in the water. Really, there's no better feeling."

Prescribed by physical as well as mental and emotional health therapists to help people cope with all types of life-altering wounds, SUDS provides several hours of local scuba practice and online theory before taking students to prime diving locales such as Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, the Virgin Islands and the Florida Keys. All expenses are paid, although SUDS runs solely on a combination of donations, fundraisers and grants. Priority is given to those who have not already been deemed certified divers. Spencer says once merchants in the locations realize what SUDS is, they wave off efforts by the group to pay.

"'Your money's no good here,' we're told," relates Spencer. Students can spend a year or more in the program, depending on their rehab process. SUDS has certified more than 145 students since February 2007.

With more than 20 years of experience underwater—10 years as a dive master and assistant instructor plus 10 as a full instructor—Spencer has dived in waters all around the world, including Fiji, Thailand, Australia, the Red Sea and just about everywhere in the Caribbean. Where's the best diving? She answers without hesitation: "Palau and Yap," two islands in Micronesia that lie hundreds of miles nearly due east of the Philippines, flanked on either side by the Philippine Sea and the north Pacific Ocean. "There's just so much to see on dives there—big stuff, little stuff, caverns to explore…really good diving spots that have beautiful sights above water as well as below."

A few weeks ago, Spencer spent the Columbus Day holiday weekend taking 10 students to the Keys for their finals. [The D.C. metropolitan area offers little in the way of underwater sightseeing, Spencer notes. Although diving skills can be learned in waters around here, local abandoned quarries and lakes are too dark and cold for true thrill dives.]

"I need to be one of those people who gives back," she says. "I can do that by volunteering this way. I'm doing my volunteer bit to ensure that someone else some day does their volunteer thing for my niece [a U.S. Army 2nd lieutenant]."

Spencer also volunteers as a diver at the National Aquarium in Baltimore, proving that water is more like a second home to her.

"Generally I dive to see the cool sights in the underwater world," she concludes, "but I often tell people that even if I were blind, I would dive. The sense of weightlessness in the water—of being neutrally buoyant, totally suspended—is beyond anything you can imagine. It's a wonderful sensation of flying."

You can give back to SUDS too, Spencer notes. The organization is #94754 among this year's CFC charities.

Trans-NIH Global Health Research Effort Launched

By Ann Puderbaugh

NIH should capitalize on the current supportive environment for global health science, its director Dr. Francis Collins recently urged members of the newly created trans-NIH global health research working group.

"Our country is poised to move from the hard power stance to soft power or, as Hillary Clinton said, smart power. Shouldn't we at NIH be leading that charge?" he asked.

The high-level working group is the result of a 2-year effort by institute and center directors to analyze global health research activities at NIH and explore better ways to coordinate efforts, both across NIH and throughout government. The Obama administration has pledged $63 billion to its Global Health Initiative and is seeking input on its approach.

"If we don't step forward and point out the value of research, the focus is likely to be increasingly on delivery, which of course is critical," Collins noted. "But we need the research aspect of this to be vigorously supported."

The genesis of the working group was the previous NIH director's leadership forum in 2007, during which a white paper was commissioned to detail the agency's role in global health. Its recommendations guided a day-long discussion by NIH global health leaders last May.

Fogarty International Center director Dr. Roger Glass, who also serves as NIH associate director for international research, reported to IC directors in June and received their support to form the standing working group on global health research.

Representatives of 18 ICs and the Office of the Director participated in the group's inaugural session, co-chaired by Glass.

Participants agreed to focus on three overarching issues—improving data collection on NIH international activities, ensuring clinical trials supported by NIH meet the highest possible standards no matter where they take place and developing strategies to position NIH to play a strategic role in the U.S. government's global health activities.

"When I came here to Fogarty, we had no data on NIH's commitments and investments in global health nor on the different areas of the world where people are invested and what they are doing," Glass recounted.

NIH director Dr. Francis Collins (fourth from l) urged members of the new trans-NIH working group on global health research to find better ways to leverage resources and coordinate international activities to improve human health.

PHOTO: MICHAEL SPENCER

There is still no comprehensive system to track foreign investments made by NIH, acknowledged Dr. Sally Rockey, acting director of the Office of Extramural Research.

Foreign sites that receive direct awards from NIH are captured in the system but foreign components of domestic awards are not, she said. "We want to strengthen our database so we can understand the funding gaps."

Rockey said a possible solution may involve creating a new category that grantees would be required to use to report on foreign segments of domestic grants.

She agreed to co-chair a subcommittee on data collection issues with Dr. Jim Herrington, Fogarty's international relations director.

A trans-NIH framework to assist the planning and implementation of international research projects was suggested by Dr. Susan Shurin, acting NICHD director.

It could collect best clinical research practices and other guidance by country or region, including advice on developing partnerships with NGOs and other governments. Other issues such as regulatory requirements, tissue specimen movement and human subjects' protection could also be provided, she said.

Such shared information could reduce the time for contract negotiations on foreign projects, encourage IRB reciprocity and help recruit clinical trial participants, noted NCRR director Dr. Barbara Alving. A virtual "concierge of experts" could also be assembled to provide useful on-the-ground experience to other investigators.

A second subcommittee, led by Shurin and Dr. Hugh Auchincloss, deputy director of NIAID, will develop the clinical trials resource.

It was also decided the group will convene country-specific meetings to facilitate inter-IC collaboration and share best practices for engaging a specific country.

The full working group is scheduled to meet again in December.

Collins told the group their work could prove to be significant and that he'd be cheering them on. "It's a great scientific opportunity and it fits so well with what NIH is all about—which is science to serve the public, in this case the whole public."

ARRA PARTY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Above:
The Directors' Band leads a sing-along of "The Saga of ARRA," sung to the Beatles' Eight Days a Week.

Below:
Dr. Lawrence Tabak has a long list of people to thank.

PHOTOS: BILL BRANSON

True to form, he said, NIH'ers pulled together to make it happen. "All of you are very good at your jobs," he said.

Kington said he would have been hard-pressed to make the deadline had it not been for the efforts of Dr. Lawrence Tabak, NIDCR director and, until recently, also the acting deputy director of NIH.

"I cannot tell you how many times he gave that kind of blank stare to me and in his mind he must have been saying, 'You must be kidding,' but he always responded with great humor and figured out ways to get things done," Kington said. Then, addressing Tabak, "You really made this a much more enjoyable experience than it ever would have been, and we're not just saying that because you're a dentist."

When he took the podium, Tabak said he had his own thanks to dole out.

"You know, I was tasked with what we supposed would be a very difficult thing to do, but really, thanking everybody who needs thanks is actually harder," he said. He unfurled a lengthy paper list that tumbled out well beyond the podium, a smile growing ever larger on his face. "So I put together a little list."

Tabak didn't wind up reading everyone's name aloud, but he did manage to credit several dozen, adding, "At the really severe risk of missing many people, I'm sorry."

He then introduced the live entertainment for the event—The Directors' Band, which included singer John Burklow, NIH associate director for communications and public liaison; Dr. Bill Sharrock of NIAMS on electric guitar; Larry Self, director of the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity Management, on bass; NIAMS director Dr. Steve Katz on guitar; and vocalist Robyn Strachan of NIAMS. The band led a sing-along of "The Saga of ARRA," to the tune of the Beatles' *Eight Days a Week*.

After the music, staffers wandered around Wilson Hall eating pie and candy apples and drinking hot cider, while others in the cafeteria (the party stretched the length of Bldg. 1's third floor) painted mini pumpkins and took guesses at the number of candy corn stuffed in a jar.

"We need to recognize when institutes do extraordinary things and this was extraordinary and very well done," Kington said as he headed back toward his office. "But even this is not sufficient to show how grateful we are for the work that's been done."

Still inside Wilson Hall, Dr. Patricia Grady, director of NINR, talked about what working on ARRA meant to those in her institute.

"It enhanced teamwork and it also gave people an opportunity to try new things and take on responsibilities that they had not had a chance to do before," she said. She also felt it gave NINR staffers and staff from all ICs an opportunity to work across institutes at NIH.

"As a smaller institute, it was exciting to participate in something as big as this."

Burklow noted, "It demonstrates NIH's capacity to take on enormous challenges and see them through. It also shows the staff's commitment to the mission and ability to rise to a challenge."

As band members packed their gear, Katz emphasized that the words of their song should be taken literally. "People worked eight days a week just constantly," he said. "They worked not just to get it done, but to get it done right."

Dr. Sudhir Varma speaks on the topic "Introduction to Microarray Analysis" at one of nine seminars on bioinformatics.

Above, Dr. Yentram Huyen demonstrates a molecular structure created using NIAID's 3-D printer to attendees at the festival.

PHOTOS: LEO LU

NIAID's Inaugural Bioinformatics Festival Deemed a Success

More than 250 people from various institutes participated in the NIAID Office of Cyber Infrastructure and Computational Biology (OCICB) 2009 Bioinformatics and Computational Biosciences Festival. The first annual festival was held recently in the Bldg. 50 lobby and auditorium. It highlighted the bioinformatics services and resources offered by OCICB and served as a kick-off for the office's fall seminar series. The festival featured introductory seminars on topics ranging from structural biology to microarray analysis and special exhibits designed to broaden knowledge of emerging technologies and collaboration opportunities available for NIAID and NIH researchers.

NIAID researchers face the unique challenge of combating infectious and immune-related diseases that rapidly change and adapt on a global scale, including emerging diseases such as SARS as well as HIV/AIDS, influenza and asthma. To face this challenge, NIAID leverages the latest computational technologies through OCICB to speed discovery and keep at the forefront of today's rapid scientific pace. OCICB works closely with NIAID intramural, extramural and administrative staff to develop technologies that support the institute mission.

OCICB provides leadership and a full range of IT infrastructure tools including a spectrum of information management solutions, engineering and bioinformatics. "We've uniquely leveraged these tools to support research," says Mike Tartakovsky, NIAID chief information officer and OCICB director. "Staying engaged with NIH researchers and keeping the lines of communication open is important to us. This year's bioinformatics festival helped us to accomplish these goals."

The festival featured seminars and exhibits that highlighted the bioinformatics services and resources available through OCICB. Experts from OCICB's Bioinformatics and Computational Biosciences Branch (BCBB) held seminars on topics including phylogenetics and molecular dynamics. Seminar attendance was high in general but the seminar on Network Analysis and Function Prediction drew a full auditorium. BCBB chief Dr. Yentram Huyen said there were several enthusiastic discussions between festival participants and BCBB and that a hot topic was Next Generation Sequencing, which allows scientists to decipher entire human and pathogen genomes within a matter of days.

Exhibits at the festival included demonstrations of OCICB-developed software as well as a "genius booth," where festival participants engaged experts on topics such as statistics tests for researchers and structural biology. A 3-D printing demonstration showcased new technologies that make molecular structures tangible and allow researchers to communicate complex ideas more quickly.

"It's important to stay ahead of the curve when it comes to bioinformatics," Huyen said. Festival participants went away armed with information about resources available to assist them. "It was truly an informal event where researchers were informed about available software, clued in about hidden 'gotchas' in bioinformatics analysis and encouraged to use bioinformatics tools," said participant Dr. Andrei Gabrielian.

Discussions at the festival spurred several inter-institute collaborative opportunities on bioinformatics topics that are currently under consideration. For more information on bioinformatics at NIAID or to discuss possible collaborations for your research, contact ScienceApps@niaid.nih.gov. For information on upcoming seminars, see http://bioinformatics.niaid.nih.gov.

***Above, from l**:*
Dr. Sam Zakhari, representing NIAAA, takes the podium for "Team Red," which won the contest.

NIH director Dr. Francis Collins and the IC directors celebrate a well-played game.

PHOTOS: MICHAEL SPENCER

CFC IC Directors' Event

Directors Play 'Jeopardy for $2.2. Million'

A crowd gathered outside Bldg. 1 the morning of Oct. 22 to cheer on the institute and center directors as they played Jeopardy for $2.2 Million. Each year, the NIH Combined Federal Campaign hosts an IC Directors' Challenge event. This year's lead IC, CIT, decided to invite the IC directors to compete for prizes in a custom-made game of *Jeopardy*. The contestants were tested on their knowledge of NIH history, science and sports trivia. Almost all institutes were represented and in the end, "Team Red" (NIDA, NIDCD, NCI, CIT, CC, NIA and NIAAA) was declared the winner.

Additional event photos can be found online at http://cfc.nih.gov.

Ghouls Compete for CFC at NIBIB

NIBIB Grants Management Staff celebrate their big win. They include (from l) Angelos Bacas, Angela Eldridge, Katie Ellis, Eunica Haynes, Florence Turska, Nancy Curling and Kwesi Wright (in mask). Missing members of the decorating team are Chris Davis and Keisha Dent.

The CFC slogan "Join Our Team" inspired NIBIB CFC coordinators Mary Pitonak and Leah Baskin to promote the CFC by hosting an intra-IC Halloween decorating contest. Multiple teams competed fiercely for the ultimate prize of being recognized by their co-workers as No. 1 in creative design and team spirit. Ghosts, bats, spiders and tombstones greeted staff and visitors for the week before Halloween and the winning team, by popular vote, was the Office of Grants Management. Grants' haunted house sported a graveyard, an operating room and the K. Daver Motel, all to the background sounds of the greatest horror films of all time.

NIBIB staff, NIH and the CFC were all winners in this competition. By engaging team spirit, CFC participation was increased by 10 percent over the previous week; NIBIB has already achieved nearly 40 percent of its 2009 goal.—**Donna Pearman**

***Below, from l**:*
The NIBIB director's office dresses for Halloween.

NIBIB Grants Management Specialist Angela Eldridge toasts the CFC with a Halloween cocktail.

PHOTOS: JUDE GUSTAFSON

The black widow, Shirley Flottum, seeks a mate for her spider lady character.

Halloween + Karaoke = A Scream

At Annual Costume Contest, CFC Wins

PHOTOS: VALERIE LAMBROS

Things got a little spooky on campus as the R&W and the CFC campaign threw a Halloween party Oct. 29 on the Bldg. 31A patio. Many people got into the act and dressed up in full costume, while others took the opportunity just to wear a silly hat. A DJ played *Ghostbusters* and the theme from *Twilight Zone*, and some ghouls sang karaoke, including a trio of ladies dressed as a cowgirl, an Indian and a policewoman who sang the Village People's *YMCA*.

Winning this year's costume contest were: Most Creative, Wanda Malave as a couch potato; Scariest Costume, Shirley Flottum as a black widow spider lady; and Best Character, Pamela James as Catwoman. However, the real winners were some of the local charities represented at the party, including Special Love/Camp Fantastic and the Foundation for NIH.

***Above, l**:*
Catwoman Pamela James (l) and pals Rodger Edmonds and Percilla Johnson get into the Halloween spirit.

***Above, r**:*
Leprechaun Ken Ow does his best to spell out "Y-M-C-A."

***Left**:*
Couch potato Wanda Malave channel-surfs her way to winning the costume deemed "Most Creative."

***Below**:*
Scary with style, Cindy Shaw sports her great-great-grandmother's shoes as part of her costume. "Not that she was a witch or anything," Shaw said.

Below, a fun bunch gathers to document wearing get-ups you couldn't get away with wearing any other day of the year.

Darwin Symposium Explores Naturalist And His Works

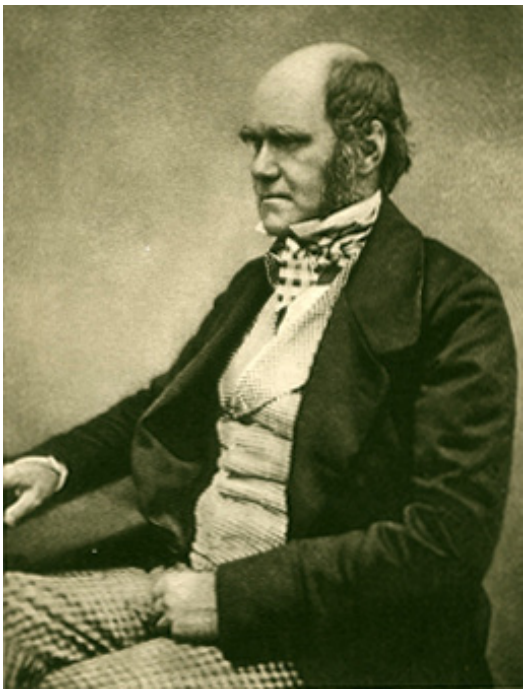
Though Charles Darwin died more than 120 years ago, the recent Darwin symposium showed that his groundbreaking *On the Origin of Species* and his theory of evolution live on in the minds of scientists, scholars and the public. As the pinnacle of a year-long series of events commemorating the 150th anniversary of *On the Origin of Species*, the Oct. 1 symposium brought together leading scholars and scientists to discuss the legacy of this book.

Titled "Finished Proofs?" (and held on the anniversary of the day Darwin finished the proofs of his book), the symposium traced the legacy of Darwinian evolution and explored why it has been so successful as a scientific pursuit yet relatively unpersuasive among other groups. This meditation on Darwin's critics and supporters was intended to "illuminate the many ways in which 'proof' has been understood in the last 150 years," said David Cantor, deputy director of the Office of NIH History (which organized the symposium, along with the National Library of Medicine's History of Medicine Division).

Speakers highlighted past and ongoing debates and applications of Darwin's theory of evolution. Janet Browne, a historian of science from Harvard University and noted Darwin scholar, kicked off the day by charting the changing attitudes toward Darwin from his burial in Westminster Abbey to his evocation in debates on evolution and creationism. Michael Ruse, a philosophy professor from Florida State University, provocatively asked whether Darwinism was past its sell-by date, before concluding that it was not. Barry Werth, the best-selling author of *Banquet at Delmonico's*, described the complex reception of Darwinian evolutionary theory in the United States. Dr. Eric Green, NHGRI scientific director, explained the application of evolutionary theory to new models of genome sequencing.

The symposium closed with a panel discussion of Darwin, evolution and the problems of public education led by Dr. Maxine Singer, former president of the Carnegie Institution of Washington; National Public Radio science correspondent Joe Palca; Nathaniel Comfort, biographer of Nobel laureate Dr. Barbara McClintock; and Dr. Alan Guttmacher, acting director of NHGRI. The discussion showed how "proof" continues to mean different things to different groups—part of the reason why Darwinism remains a divisive issue to this day.

Panelists and audience members also considered how to respectfully engage and educate the broader public on Darwinian evolution. Collaborating with churches, staffing schools with teachers with scientific backgrounds and clearly relaying the scientific process and what among scientists is currently considered scientific "proof" were among the approaches discussed.—**Sejal Patel**



***Top**:*
Charles Robert Darwin, age 45 in 1854, by then working towards publication of On the Origin of Species

***Below**:*
Symposium organizer David Cantor (l) joins members of the recent Darwin symposium, including (from l) Barry Werth, Nathaniel Comfort, Dr. Maxine Singer, Dr. Alan Guttmacher, Janet Browne, Dr. Eric Green, Joe Palca and Michael Ruse.

CIT Computer Training Updates Web Page, Courses

As the leaves have begun to show color, change has also occurred within the CIT Computer Training Program. As some may have noticed, the web site for the program has been redesigned to include a sleek, new look and improved functionality.

To obtain a complete listing of all courses, register for an upcoming session and review your transcript or current course status, visit http://training.cit.nih.gov. The redesigned site also offers RSS (Really Simple Syndication) feeds as well as the option to join a listserv (distributed monthly) so you receive notification as courses are added to the schedule. You can even see how many seats remain available in any given session and keep a transcript of the courses you have already attended.

CIT Training has also implemented a revolving term that will correspond with the fiscal year so you won't have to wait for a new term to start before registering for courses. Once a course has been scheduled, it will be listed on the web site and sent out to members of the NIH community who have subscribed to either the RSS feeds and/or the CIT Training listserv. Most courses are free to NIH staff.

As the training program evolves, new opportunities are offered. As many know, Section 508 was enacted to eliminate barriers in information technology, make available new opportunities for people with disabilities and encourage development of technologies that will help achieve these goals. To help with this initiative, CIT is currently offering sessions in creating compliant PowerPoint presentations and Word documents. Stay tuned for sessions in JAWS.

New courses being offered include: Pathogen Analysis using BEAST; Molecular Graphics: Illustrations with PyMOL, Chimera and VMD (I and II); Biomedical Illustration and Animation with Blender; and GIMP: Free Alternative to Adobe Photoshop.

Popular courses returning include: MATLAB for Scientists; Better Graphics with R; Statistical Analysis of Microarray Data; Excel 2007 Formulas and PivotTables; Office 2007 – What's New?; QVR – Introduction, Intermediate and Advanced; ECB – Council Information Management, Advanced Project Data Administration, and Early Concurrence Data Administration; Wiki Tutorial; and Adobe Photoshop Hands On.

If you have any questions about the CIT training program, call (301) 594-6248 or email CITTraining@mail.nih.gov.

At left, John Mate of QUOSA, Inc., explains how to use QUOSA software options. At right, Courtenay Carson of Thomson Reuters points out Web of Science features to NIH Library open house visitors. PHOTOS: ERNIE BRANSON

NIH Library Open House Draws Crowd

By Cindy Clark

Fire marshals did not have to cite the NIH Library for occupancy violations because the more than 540 attendees at this year's open house arrived in waves. They came to see vendors' demonstrations of resources such as GeneIndexer, IPA and Brain Navigator. NIH'ers had the opportunity to ask questions and give feedback as they debated the merits of databases designed to make their jobs easier.

In addition to providing product overviews in the library's new glass-enclosed training room, representatives from Computable Genomix, Ingenuity, Elsevier, QUOSA, Thomson Reuters, NLM and Chemical Abstracts Service engaged in in-depth conversations with NIH researchers and administrators.

While attendees enjoyed the sunshine filtering in through the library's large windows, staff showcased its newest services—Bioinformatics and the Editing Service. Staff also discussed errors in the 6th edition of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* with writers at the Writing Center table; demonstrated the ease of using the new Self-Service Checkout Stations when borrowing books; gave tours of the eco-friendly Green Terrace, which includes medicinal plant species studied at NIH; and launched the library's Beta Search Engine.

Posters displaying recent research conducted by library staff generated lots of interest, too. Topics included the Pandemic Influenza Digital Archive, a collaborative web site of pandemic information aimed at virologists and researchers worldwide; the AllPlus federated search engine that includes a metasearch prototype with the potential to integrate the Clinical Research Information System; and the Mediated Search Survey that measures satisfaction, relevance and cost-effectiveness of library-mediated searches.

"Today the focus of the physical NIH Library is on being a place for learning and collaboration," said Division of Library Services Director Suzanne Grefsheim. "As an example," she noted, "the intent of the recent Reading Room renovation was to create space that enabled and showcased these functions. In addition, it was an opportunity to create a model for 'green' construction."

Ben Hope, chief of the Information Architecture Branch, elaborated on details of implementing the library's renovation choices. Energy-efficient lighting included LED and cold cathode bulb technology, room sensors to turn lights off when not in use and sensors in the main reading room that dim the lights in response to daylight. "We repurposed traditional library furniture to accommodate new technology requirements and utilized recycled and environmentally friendly materials in walls and ceilings," Hope said. "Many items were purchased from companies within a 500-mile radius of NIH."

NIH Hosts Community College Day

***Top**:*
Evelyn Cruz is enrolled in nursing classes at the three campuses of Montgomery College.

***Above**:*
Dr. Christine Barrow, acting chair of the department of biological sciences at Prince George's Community College in Largo, Md., is a former NIH summer intern.

PHOTOS: MAGGIE BARTLETT

Students from Baltimore and Washington area community colleges got a different taste of campus life recently while participating in the first Community College Day at NIH. Held at Natcher Conference Center, the day-long event was within driving distance of an array of 2-year undergraduate schools that serve the region.

The program featured talks and panel discussions about biomedical careers, clinical trials and basic research. It also offered participants a visit to the National Library of Medicine and to buildings housing biomedical laboratories. Approximately 80 participants attended from seven community colleges in Maryland and Virginia.

"NIH is the perfect place to learn about science," said Evelyn Cruz, 27, who is enrolled in nursing classes at the three campuses of Montgomery College. She particularly valued the opportunity to network, collecting business cards—and confidence—along the way. "I am more likely to view it as okay to ask for help and to turn to someone who knows about the field," she said.

The event, sponsored by the NIH Office of Intramural Training and Education and the National Human Genome Research Institute, provided students and instructors an opportunity to both visit the NIH campus and learn about careers and training possibilities in biomedical and health care fields.

For Dr. Christine Barrow, acting chair of the department of biological sciences at Prince George's Community College in Largo, Md. (and a former NIH summer intern), the day was the culmination of her 3-year collaboration with NIH authorities. She was particularly pleased to hear from NIH presenters who themselves attended community colleges. "One of the great things about this day is that the students are seeing that they can access these innovative types of opportunities to do research," she said.

She is aware of some of the unique needs of her student population. "Many community college students have family responsibilities and full- or part-time jobs, so we need to structure some flexibility into our programs," she said. "I just keep thinking that it is important to send students to NIH, because it opens doors."

Grady Emphasizes Research, Practice Link

As Louis Pasteur noted over a century ago, "There are not two sciences. There is science and the application of science, and these two are linked, as the fruit is to the tree." Applying this concept to health care, NINR director Dr. Patricia Grady noted in a recent talk given at the University of Washington in Seattle that "research and practice are integral and inseparable…Research disconnected from its own translation fails to address our health needs and challenges; practice disconnected from evidence-based research operates on supposition and bias."

Grady visited the UW School of Nursing to participate in a dialogue about the future of nursing research and interdisciplinary translational science. The school, consistently ranked among the top in funding support from NINR and NIH, has an extensive interdisciplinary research program. Its Center for Women's Health & Gender Research was the first NIH-supported center dedicated to studies in women's health. In addition, the school's dean, Dr. Marla Salmon, is a member of NINR's advisory council and senior editor of the award-winning book, *NURSE: A World of Care*.

Grady's presentation, "Research and Practice: A Translational Imperative," explored the myriad ways that NINR-supported research has contributed to clinical practice. As one example, she cited a recent NINR-funded study published by UW nurse scientist Dr. Pamela Mitchell. Mitchell and her team found that a brief, nurse-led psychosocial intervention for stroke survivors helped to reduce post-stroke depression, a common occurrence that often impairs the recovery and rehabilitation of stroke patients.

Grady noted that translational research was often initially portrayed as linear and orderly—moving research findings from the lab to the clinic to populations. In actuality, though, it is a living and dynamic process, branching off in multiple directions, incorporating additional steps of research dissemination and evaluation of outcomes and affecting policy, practice and economics. Still, the goal remains the same—to improve human health.

Scientists and clinicians both benefit from collaborations that broaden and accelerate translational research. As Grady stated, "A key to advancing translational health science is the expansion and enhancement of collaborative team science that draws scientists and other professionals together around a common theme or challenge."—**Ray Bingham**

milestones

Grants Policy Guru Hahn Honored

By Manju Subramanya

The first time Judy Fredenberg spotted Marcia Hahn, the latter was knitting while waiting to present at a regional meeting. "Not only did I glean a considerable amount of NIH-related information from that meeting, I left with the shawl pattern," said Fredenberg, interim director of research and sponsored programs at the University of Montana. "This willingness to go above-and-beyond epitomizes Marcia Hahn: Whether her project consists of fiber or a complex grants policy, it is knit together in an inclusive, deliberative fashion, one stitch at a time."

Kudos such as that have landed Hahn, director of the grants policy division at the NIH Office of Extramural Research, many awards during her 26-year federal career, including her most recent—the Joseph F. Carrabino Award from the National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA). The award recognizes a federal partner who has made a significant contribution to research administration.

This honor is noteworthy, said her boss, Joe Ellis, director of the NIH Office of Policy for Extramural Research Administration, because Hahn was nominated by her peers in the research community outside of NIH. "It is the first time that someone from NIH has received this award," he said. "It is very meaningful to us that she is the first person recognized."

Ellis described Hahn as tireless (starting her workday at 5:30 a.m.), dedicated (not letting a bout of food poisoning keep her from delivering a presentation in Boston a few years ago) and a wonderful communicator with an incredible depth of knowledge of NIH grants policy and federal policy and how they interact.

Since coming to OER in 2001, after 18 years at NIGMS, Hahn has played a major role in several key initiatives—developing policies for ARRA grants, enhancing peer review, the transition from paper grant applications to electronic and overseeing the grants policy resources needed by applicants such as application guides.

"She is a go-to person for us to understand the implications of a proposed action," said Megan Columbus, acting director of communications and outreach at OER and program manager for electronic submission of grant applications, who has often turned to Hahn for answers to thorny policy questions. "Her historical perspective keeps us from rehashing discussions and we move forward quickly."

At the many seminars she attends at the national level, Hahn is seen as the voice of authority on NIH grants policy. "It is impossible for us to interface with her at these meetings because she is inundated by people who want a direct answer just from her," Ellis said with a smile.

"Hers is a familiar face in New England and her presentations are always packed," wrote Vivian Holmes, assistant director of the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, in her letter nominating Hahn for the Carrabino award.

"She is knowledgeable, she is responsive, she understands the unique and delicate balance of federal partnerships," said Fredenberg, chair of the NCURA committee that selected her for the award. "[Hahn's] nomination reflected the high degree of respect and appreciation shared by many of us in the university research community."

Hahn received the award at a luncheon during NCURA's 51st annual meeting on Oct. 22 in Washington, D.C.

Marcia Hahn, director of the grants policy division at the NIH Office of Extramural Research, recently received the Joseph F. Carrabino Award from the National Council of University Research Administrators.

Hungarian professional concert pianist Adam Gyorgy performs Oct. 20 in lobby of Bldg. 10. His was the eighth performance in the Clinical Center's Piano Concert Series, sponsored by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

PHOTOS: ERNIE BRANSON, VALERIE LAMBROS

Visiting Pianist Offers Healing Music at The Clinical Research Center

By Valerie Lambros

Art is practiced every day at the Clinical Research Center, but it's rare that the art is music and not medicine.

That all changed the afternoon of Oct. 20 with the visit of the soft-spoken but musically formidable Adam Gyorgy, a Hungarian professional concert pianist whose journey to artistic prominence began 15 years ago when he was accepted at age 12 into the Bela Bartok Conservatory as a prodigy. Gyorgy's performance, the eighth in the Clinical Center's Piano Concert Series, was sponsored by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

Dr. George Kunos, NIAAA scientific director, had seen the pianist perform at the Hungarian Embassy more than a year ago and worked to bring Gyorgy to NIH. In his brief introduction of the artist at the CRC, Kunos was at a loss in describing the experience he'd had when he first heard Gyorgy play.

"As I was listening to Adam play, I had goose bumps all over, and I am sure you will, too," he said.

For a little more than an hour, the CRC transformed into NIH's own Carnegie Hall as the 9-story atrium became a glorious cathedral of swirling and spiraling sound. The hospital's resident Steinway grand piano came alive with both classical masterpieces and modern variations of traditional melodies.

"This is so special for us," said Yasmin Coates, program specialist and event coordinator for the Clinical Center. "A lot of our patients come here from 'middle town' America, from small towns and parts of the country that are far away from cities. They might not have the opportunity to see a performance like this otherwise."

While some patients and their visiting families took seats near the atrium's center fountain, others watched from higher floors, some pulling IV poles while still more were wheeled there by family members.

With the floor audience seated only steps away from the enormous glossy black piano, Gyorgy captivated listeners with the inspiring *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* by J.S. Bach, the delicate and intricate *Ballade in G minor* by Frederic Chopin and the delightful *La Campanella* by Franz Liszt, with whom Gyorgy has often been compared.

He also offered improvisations and a soaring play on Georges Bizet's *Carmen*, as well as decorated variations of a piece by Giuseppe Verdi and a playful and ornate take on the traditional *Wedding March* by Felix Mendelssohn.

The audience, with some members nodding to the beat or dancing their fingers along imaginary keyboards on their laps, was spellbound. When he closed his program, Gyorgy was met with a standing ovation and calls for more. He returned to the piano and played an achingly beautiful rendition of *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*, which brought a number of listeners to tears.

Between the moment he played the last note and the moment his hands finally lifted from the keys and his head rose, the atrium and everyone in it was silent, as if not wanting the magic to stop. Rising from the piano bench, Gyorgy was almost immediately surrounded by appreciative audience members and people wishing him well in his blossoming career. However, most were speechless. Coates was one.

"That was just amazing," she said, holding a bouquet of yellow flowers to give to the performer. "Just—there are no other words—just amazing."

Gyorgy, who only a month earlier had played a major concert in Paris and was soon to start a tour of Asian nations, gladly signed programs and posed for photographs in the impromptu fan gathering that sprang up. And while he was showered with praise, Gyorgy, shy and humble, always replied, "Thank you very much."

The CRC atrium will welcome the NIH Chamber Singers on Dec. 9 and classical guitarist Mack Bailey on Dec. 11.